

Eastern Kingbird *Tyrannus tyrannus*

With its simple but bold pattern of blackish upperparts, whitish underparts, and white-tipped tail, the Eastern differs conspicuously from the other kingbirds. It is a casual fall vagrant to San Diego County, with one record in late spring. Its frequency here appears to be on the decline.

Migration: The Eastern Kingbird is known in San Diego County from 19 records, all but one in fall from 15 July (1972, one in the Tijuana River valley, AB 26:907, 1972) to 17 October (1978, one at Vallecito, M25, AB 33:216, 1979). All fall records are along the coast except for the one from Vallecito and another from Kit Carson Park (K11) 22 September 1979 (AB 34:202, 1980). Only three records are since 1981, from San Elijo Lagoon (L7) 28 September–1 October 1986 (C. G. Edwards, AB 41:145, 1987) and 12 September 1988 (R. T. Patton, AB 43:169, 1989), and the single late spring record, from the Sweetwater River 0.7 mile below Highway 94 (S13) 15



Photo by Anthony Mercieca

June 1991 (P. Unitt, AB 45:1162, 1991). There is still only one specimen, from San Elijo Lagoon 28 September 1963 (SDNHM 30767, McCaskie et al. 1967a).